

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1. (Original) A mutant human α -synuclein having decreased aggregation forming ability.

2. (Original) A mutant human α -synuclein having the amino acid sequence comprising at least one of the following amino acid substitution in the amino acid sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO: 1: Gly68; Ala69; Val70; Val71; Thr72; Val74; Val77; and Val82.

3. (Original) A mutant human α -synuclein having the amino acid sequence which comprises at least one of the following amino acid substitutions in the amino acid sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO: 1:
 - substitution of Gly68 with threonine or valine;
 - substitution of Ala69 with threonine, valine or lysine
 - substitution of Val70 with threonine, proline or phenylalanine;
 - substitution of Val71 with threonine or lysine;
 - substitution of Thr72 with valine or glutamic acid;
 - substitution of Val74 with threonine;
 - substitution of Val77 with threonine; and
 - substitution of Val82 with lysine.

4. (Original) A mutant human α -synuclein comprising the amino acid substitutions Ala69Lys / Val70Thr / Val71Lys / Thr72Glu in the amino acid sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO: 1.

5. (Original) A mutant human α -synuclein comprising the amino acid substitutions Ala69Lys / Val70Thr / Val71Lys / Thr72Glu and Val82Lys in the amino acid sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO: 1.

6. (Original) A gene coding for the mutant human α -synuclein claimed in any one of claims 1 to 5.

7. (Original) A recombinant plasmid comprising the gene claimed in claim 6 introduced therein.

8. (Original) A transformant transformed with the recombinant plasmid claimed in claim 7.

9. (Original) A process for producing a mutant human α -synuclein comprising the steps of:

- (a) introducing the gene claimed in claim 6 into a plasmid to prepare a recombinant plasmid;
- (b) transforming a host with the recombinant plasmid of (a) to prepare a transformant; and
- (c) culturing the transformant of (b) to produce the mutant human α -synuclein.

10. (Original) A composition for inhibiting aggregation of the wild type human α -synuclein, Ala53Thr mutant human α -synuclein or Ala50Pro mutant human α -synuclein, comprising the mutant human α -synuclein claimed in any one of claims 1 to 5.

11. (Original) A method for inhibiting aggregation of the wild type human α -synuclein, Ala53Thr mutant human α -synuclein or Ala50Pro mutant human α -synuclein in a cell, tissue or organism, comprising contacting the cell, tissue or organism with the mutant human α -synuclein claimed in any one of claims 1 to 5.

12. (Currently Amended) A peptide having a sequence of 10 or more contiguous amino acid residues in the following amino acid sequence:

Gln-Val-Thr-Asn-Val-Gly-Gly-Ala-Thr-Thr-Thr-Gly-Val-
Thr-Ala-Val-Ala-Gln (SEQ ID NO: 22).

13. (Currently Amended) A peptide having the following amino acid sequence:

Val-Gly-Gly-Ala-Thr-Thr-Thr-Gly-Val-Thr (SEQ ID NO: 23).

14. (Original) A composition for inhibiting aggregation of the wild type human α -synuclein, Ala53Thr mutant human α -synuclein or Ala50Pro mutant human α -synuclein, comprising the peptide claimed in claim 12 or 13.

15. (Original) A method for inhibiting aggregation of the wild type human α -synuclein, Ala53Thr mutant human α -synuclein or Ala50Pro mutant human α -synuclein in a cell, tissue or organism, comprising contacting the cell, tissue or organism with the peptide claimed in claim 12 or 13.